(b) whether it is a fact that 47,000-50,000 million units of electricity are not produced on account of 'forced outages'; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to minimize the power plant outages?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) The country continues to face peaking power shortage over the years which has, in fact, increased from 9,500 MW in 2003-04 to 14,290 MW during April, 2006 - February, 2007. Although shortage of gas and outage of power plants are responsible for continued shortage of power, the main reason for peaking power shortage as well as energy shortage is inadequate capacity addition during Tenth Plan in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir. The generation loss due to forced outages of coal based power stations, during 2004-05 and 2005-06 has been of the order of 47,000-50,000 million units.

(c) In order to minimize forced outages of generating plants, periodic maintenance is carried out as per the recommendations of the manufacturers. Further, renovation and modernization (R&M) and life extension (LE) of old and inefficient generating units are also carried out as part of R&M and LE programme.

Funds for institutions in Andhra Pradesh

4229. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are allocating sufficient funds to the institutions under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the funds utilized so far, year-wise; and

(d) the new institutions to come up in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.